

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 13663 141000Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7809
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 13663

USEEC

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT ADD LINE 2 PARA 2

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, GW, FR
SUBJ: GERMAN AMBASSADOR COMMENTS ON CLOSE FRANCO-GERMAN
COOPERATION DURING FRG'S EC PRESIDENCY

1. DURING JULY 11 LUNCHEON AT RESIDENCE, AMBASSADOR AND MEMBERS USEC STAFF DISCUSSED WITH GERMAN PERMREP TO EC AND SELECTED MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF FRG PRIORITIES DURING CURRENT GERMAN EC PRESIDENCY. PERMREP'S LIST OF PRIORITIES WAS CONSISTENT WITH THAT REPORTED IN BRUSSELS 11823. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST, HOWEVER, WAS PERMREP'S SPONTANEOUS COMMENT THAT DURING GERMAN PRESIDENCY, GERMANS WOULD WORK "ESPECIALLY CLOSELY" WITH THE FRENCH. IN REPLY TO AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT THAT HE SUPPOSED THIS WAS BECAUSE FRENCH FOLLOW GERMANS IN THE PRESIDENCY AND BOTH DESIRE MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF EC MACHINERY, GERMAN PERMREP AGREED AND ADDED THAT RESULTS WERE IMPORTANT AND NOT WHETHER THEY WERE FINALLY ACHIEVED IN GERMAN OR FRENCH PRESIDENCY.

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2. COMMENT: WHILE MY GERMAN COLLEAGUE DID NOT, OF COURSE, EXPLICITLY SAY THAT THE GERMANS WISH TO BREATHE LIFE INTO THE CONCEPT OF A FRANCO-GERMAN DIRECTORATE IN THE EC (WHICH WAS BEING SUGGESTED BY THE FRENCH TWO OR THREE YEARS AGO), THE PRACTICAL IMPORT OF HIS LANGUAGE COULD LEND ITSELF TO THAT INTERPRETATION. IN ANY CASE, CLEAR IMPLICATION WAS THAT BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE KEY GERMAN

OBJECTIVES DURING THEIR PRESIDENCY (ESPECIALLY ON NEW
MONETARY COOPERATION SYSTEM) WAS TO ASSURE THAT GERMANS
AND FRENCH IN BRUSSELS WORK IN CLOSE HARMONY. HINTON

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